



# Where There is Water There is Life Water for a Dry and Thirsty Land

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Enhancing Trust

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## NEWSLETTER

September 2021

### From Leon's Desk

Greetings again to our wonderful friends! I thank God so much that I get to be a part of Water For Life, because I get to meet many of you wonderful people! God has brought us together to share His love with the Haitian people. It is because God first loved us that we can love others. Thank you for sharing that love with others! Summer will be gone soon.

Our hearts have been so heavy as we contemplate the destruction and loss of lives in Southern Haiti, where we have lived and worked for so many years. Days after the August 14



earthquake that measured 7.2 on the Richter scale, the area was affected by Tropical Storm Grace with its winds and rain. Can you imagine needing to sleep in the open air due to dangerous or no-longer-standing housing, and then having a storm come by all night?? Many didn't sleep at all, others tried to sit in chairs with umbrellas or whatever they could find to partially cover them, and others simply endured a



rainy night. Rains generally continue for multiple days when a hurricane-type storm passes through.

We were glad our staff could help rescue people trapped in their homes after the earthquake and take them to a hospital. Also they filled our water trucks with water and took them to



the city so people could have access to water for their needs. Immediate needs are for large tarps to cover houses and family-sized tents that likely they will live in for the months to come. And medical help—an earthquake brings with it the need for lots of surgeries to repair broken bones and do other wound care and to amputate crushed limbs. It is terrible but necessary work that needs to be done before gangrene sets in. There are several small hospitals in Les Cayes that have been working long days every day doing surgeries, in addition to multiple ones in Port-au-Prince for those living further from Cayes. One of those small hospitals we know well is Notre Dame Hospital. If you would like to contribute to help their overwhelming expenses doing surgeries and other treatments for earthquake victims, you can go directly to their website ([www.hnds.com](http://www.hnds.com)) to get details. It will be later on when we will see how best to do lasting good for communities. We are very glad to report that the houses we built for families after the hurricane five years ago did well and are all standing after this earthquake. 😊 Oh, and the buildings on our campus all survived well also; no structural damage, for which we praise the Lord!

So please keep praying for the people of Haiti. Pray we can stay focused on helping the poor and not become discouraged as we look at all the problems with the government.

Thank you so much for your prayers and being a part of sharing God's love and blessings with the people of Haiti. May God bless and keep you.

~Leon

### A New School Year!

For almost four years now, thanks to your unconditional support, both financial and spiritual, half of the children at the school have received their school books free of charge. This constitutes enormous support for many families living below the poverty line. For lack of school materials—lack of



means for parents, quite simply—many children do not get to go to school.

Despite the earthquake having happened, the village where our school is was largely unaffected by it, praise God! So plans for school to be open in the beginning weeks of September are still going forward. Today, we are coming to you once again not only to renew the stock of school books which is starting to run out, but also to encourage you to continue to support child sponsorship and thus improve the daily life of a child, because they are always the first victims of poverty.

Through sponsorship you bring hope for a better future by ensuring access to a quality Christian education. A real exchange is expected between you and your sponsored children. Also you can exchange photos and letters to strengthen links. You can send them a ray of that divine light that shines in each of us who have become miracle workers like our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Back to school is this month and over 600 children are counting on you!

### The LIGHT in the Valley of Death

In the midst of the despair we are going through in Haiti—lack of food, water, fuel, security, and all the basic needs you can imagine; blind violence, kidnapping..., the way we can express it is like a walk in the valley of death. Daily living is terrible in Haiti.

Very often people ask me the question, and even I myself am wondering why it is like that; why our neighbors like the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, even Cuba after 60 years under a trade embargo are doing much better than us.

Today 44 percent of our people are in famine, don't have access to clean water, to healthcare and so on. The question comes very often — “How is it that Haiti is the poorest nation in the western hemisphere?” Why indeed, Lord Jesus? In His loving voice, He answered me in John 15:12-13 *“I command*

#### — Get Your Newsletter via Email —

Once again, a little reminder that you can choose to receive your newsletter via email if you'd wish!

Contact us at [waterforlife@hotmail.com](mailto:waterforlife@hotmail.com) with your email address.

*you to love each other in the same way that I love you. And here is how to measure it—the greatest love is shown when people lay down their lives for their friends.”*

We need to thank all of you for your unconditional love towards the needy people in Haiti. Thank you for your prayers and your financial help that feeds our 600 children with an education, a daily meal and the gospel. Thank you for the 600 thousand people living in remote areas that have access to clean water. Thank you for the five thousand people receiving healthcare assistance through the mobile clinic program. Thank you that the farmers in Passe Bois d'Orme have an irrigation program providing food for their families. Thank you for providing pay to the staff.

*Above all thank you for your love and your prayers.*



On behalf of the Haitian people, please receive God's blessings from Isaiah 58:10-12:

*“Feed the hungry*

*and help those in trouble.*

*Then your light will shine out from the darkness,  
and the darkness around you will be as bright as day.*

*The Lord will guide you continually,  
watering your life when you are dry  
and keeping you healthy, too.*

*You will be like a well-watered garden,  
like an ever-flowing spring.*

*Your people will rebuild the old cities that are now in  
ruins; you will rebuild their foundations.*

*You will be known for repairing the broken places  
and for rebuilding the roads and houses.” (NLT)*

#### — July 2021 Statistics —

Wells Drilled: 2

Hand Pumps Installed: 5

People Served: approximately 1,750

Hand Pumps Repaired: 23

People Served: approximately 8,050